AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A 38-residue or 39-residue CRF cyclic peptide, or a nontoxic salt thereof, which binds to CRFR1 with an affinity substantially greater than it binds to CRFR2, which peptide has the following formula:
Y_1-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-R_{14}-R_{15}-Arg-R_{17}-R_{18}-R_{19}-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-R_{27}-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-R_{32}-R_{33}-Lys-Arg-R_{36}-R_{37}-Nle-Glu-R_{40}-R_{41}-NH_2
wherein the sidechains of Glu and Lys indicated are covalently linked; Y_1 is an acyl group having not more than 15 carbon atoms or is radioiodinated tyrosine; R_{14} is CML or Leu; R_{15} is CML or Leu; R_{17} is Glu or CML; R_{18} is Val or CML; R_{19} is CML or Leu; R_{27} is CML or Leu; R_{32} is His or D-His; R_{33} is Aib, D-Ala, D-Ser or Ser; R_{36} is Lys or CML; R_{37} is CML or Leu; R_{40} is Ile or CML; and R_{41} is Ile or CML; provided that ~~a cyclizing bond exists between Glu in position 31 and Lys in position 34 and provided further that~~ D-ß-(2-napthyl)alanine(D-2Nal) or D-Leu may be substituted for D-Phe.

14. (currently amended) A CRF agonist peptide, or a nontoxic salt thereof, which binds to CRFR1 with an affinity substantially greater than it binds to CRFR2, which peptide has the following formula:
~~(cyclo 31-34)~~ Y_1-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val-Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2, wherein Y_1 is an acyl group having not more than 7 carbon atoms or is radioiodinated tyrosine, and wherein a cyclizing bond may exist between the side chains of Glu ~~in the 31 position~~ and Lys ~~in the 34 position~~ as indicated.

15. (currently amended) A 38-residue or 39-residue CRFR1 ligand cyclic peptide which binds to CRFR1 with an affinity substantially greater than it binds to CRFR2, which peptide has the following formula, or a nontoxic salt thereof:

~~(cyclo 31-34)~~Y_1-Pro-Pro-R_6-Ser-R_8-Asp-Leu-R_{11}-D-Phe-His-R_{14}-R_{15}-Arg-Glu-R_{18}-Leu-R_{20}-Nle-R_{22}-R_{23}-Ala-R_{25}-Gln-R_{27}-Ala-R_{29}-Gln-Glu-R_{32}-R_{33}-R_{34}-Arg-R_{36}-R_{37}-Nle-R_{39}-R_{40}-R_{41}-NH_2 wherein the side chains of Glu and R_{34} are covalently linked as indicated; Y_1 is an acyl group having not more than 7 carbon atoms or is radioiodinated tyrosine; R_6 is Ile, Met or Nle; R_8 is Leu or Ile; R_{11} is Thr or Ser; R_{14} is CML or Leu; R_{15} is Leu or CML; R_{18} is Val, CML, Nle or Met; R_{20} is Glu or D-Glu; R_{22} is Ala or Thr; R_{23} is Arg or Lys; R_{25} is Asp or Glu; R_{27} is Leu or CML; R_{29} is Gln or Glu; R_{32} is His, Aib, Ala, Gly, Leu, Gln or Glu; R_{33} is Aib or an L- or D-isomer of Ser, Asn, Leu, Ala, CML or Ile; R_{34} is Lys or Orn; R_{36} is Lys or Leu; R_{37} is CML or Leu; R_{39} is Glu or Asp; R_{40} is Ile, CML or Glu; and R_{41} is Ala, Aib or Ile; provided that D-ß-(2-napthyl)alanine(D-2Nal) or D-Leu may be substituted for D-Phe.

16. (new) A CRF cyclic peptide according to claim 15 having the formula: Y_1-Pro-Pro-R_6-Ser-R_8-Asp-Leu-R_{11}-D-Phe-His-R_{14}-Leu-Arg-Glu-R_{18}-Leu-R_{20}-Nle-R_{22}-R_{23}-Ala-R_{25}-Gln-Leu-Ala-R_{29}-Gln-Glu-R_{32}-R_{33}-R_{34}-Arg-R_{36}-R_{37}-Nle-R_{39}-R_{40}-R_{41}-NH_2 wherein Y_1 is an acyl group having not more than 7 carbon atoms; R_{20} is Glu or D-Glu; R_{22} is Ala or Thr; R_{23} is Arg or Lys; R_{29} is Gln or Glu; R_{32} is His, Aib or Ala; R_{36} is Lys or Leu; R_{37} is Leu or CML; R_{39} is Glu or Asp; R_{40} is Ile, CML or Glu; and R_{41} is Ile, Aib or Ala; wherein the remaining variables are as defined in claim 15.

17. (new) A peptide according to claim 15 wherein R_{18} is Val, R_{22} is Ala, R_{23} is Arg, R_{25} is Glu, R_{39} is Glu, and R_{41} is Ile.

18. (new) A peptide according to claim 15 having the following formula, or a nontoxic salt thereof:
Y_1-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val-Leu-Glu-Nle-R_{22}-R_{23}-Ala-Glu-Gln-R_{27}-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-R_{32}-R_{33}-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu-Nle-Glu-R_{40}-Ile-NH_2 wherein Y_1 is an acyl group having not more than 7 carbon atoms; R_{22} is Ala or Thr;

R_{23} is Arg or Lys; R_{27} is Leu or CML; R_{32} is His; R_{33} is Ser or Aib; and R_{40} is Ile or CML.

19. (new) A peptide according to claim 13 having the formula:
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu- Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2, or
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-CML-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys- Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-CML-NH_2; or
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-CML-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Aib-Lys-Arg-Lys- Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-CML-NH_2.

20. (new) A peptide according to claim 13 having the formula:
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-CML-Arg-Glu-Val-Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu- Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2, or
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-CML-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2; or
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val-Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-CML-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-D-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys- Leu-Nle-Glu-CML-Ile-NH_2.

21. (new) A peptide having the formula:
Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val-Leu-Glu-Nle-Thr-Lys-Ala-Asp-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys-Leu-Nle-Asp-Ile- Ala-NH_2; or

Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-CML-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Ser-Lys-Arg-Lys- Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2; or

Ac-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Leu-Asp-Leu-Thr-D-Phe-His-Leu-Leu-Arg-Glu-Val- Leu-Glu-Nle-Ala-Arg-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Ala-Gln-Gln-Glu-His-Aib-Lys-Arg-Lys- Leu-Nle-Glu-Ile-Ile-NH_2.